



Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0127

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: George H. HOFFMAN, et al.

Title: SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT  
FRAMEWORK INTERFACE

Appl. No.: 09/815,490

Filing Date: 03/23/2001

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2163

RECEIVED  
JUN 27 2003  
GROUP 300

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

An English translation of the foreign-language document is not readily available. However, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §608). An English Abstract is attached for document B22.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Date 6/18/03

FOLEY & LARDNER  
Customer Number: 22428



22428

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Telephone: (202) 672-5485  
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Respectfully submitted,

By

William T. Ellis  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 26,874

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
JUN 19 2003  
P-1449B  
O P T E  
S C I A T  
P R I V A T E  
C O M M U N I C A T I O N

MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: June 19, 2003

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Compl te known

Application Number	09/815,491
Filing Date	03/23/2001
First Named Inventor	George H. HOFFMAN
Group Art Unit	2163
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	062834-0127

SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
MAILED  
JUN 19 2003  
2003

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
B1	4,713,761			Sharpe et al.	12-15-1987	
B2	4,799,156			Shavit et al.	01-17-1989	
B3	5,305,199			LoBiondo et al.	04-19-1994	
B4	5,712,989			Johnson et al.	01-27-1998	
B5	5,758,329			Wojcik et al.	05-26-1998	
B6	5,884,300			Brockman	03-16-1999	
B7	5,893,076			Hafner et al.	04-06-1999	
B8	5,970,469			Scroggie et al.	10-19-1999	
B9	5,970,475			Barnes et al.	10-19-1999	
B10	6,064,981			Barni et al.	05-16-2000	
B11	6,134,557			Freeman	10-17-2000	
B12	6,138,106			Walker et al.	10-24-2000	
B13	6,148,291			Radican	11-14-2000	
B14	6,157,915			Bhaskaran	12-05-2000	
B15	6,219,653	B1		O'Neill et al.	04-17-2001	
B16	6,263,317	B1		Sharp et al.	07-17-2001	
B17	6,324,522	B2		Peterson et al.	11-27-2001	
B18	6,341,271	B1		Salvo et al.	01-22-2002	
B19	6,393,408	B1		Mosher et al.	05-21-2002	
B20	6,418,416	B1		Rosenberg et al.	07-09-2002	
B21	2002/0019759	A1		Arunapuram et al.	02-14-2002	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
B22	JP	2002236730	A		SUGIOKA, MIKIO	08-23-2002		

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>
	B23	Information on Deal Time International, 1998-2002	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

<p>Substitute for form 1449B/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p>Date Submitted: June 19, 2003</p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>		<p><i>Complete if Known</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Application Number</td> <td>09/815,490</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>03/23/2001</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>George H. HOFFMAN</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>2163</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Unassigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>062834-0127</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	09/815,490	Filing Date	03/23/2001	First Named Inventor	George H. HOFFMAN	Group Art Unit	2163	Examiner Name	Unassigned	Attorney Docket Number	062834-0127
Application Number	09/815,490														
Filing Date	03/23/2001														
First Named Inventor	George H. HOFFMAN														
Group Art Unit	2163														
Examiner Name	Unassigned														
Attorney Docket Number	062834-0127														
Sheet	2	of	2												

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

NUMBER 600 - Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not  
in accordance with the applicable standard.

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. the needs of the individual case. Any comments or

English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.